

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

Please cancel claims 1-8 and 13-21 as follows.
Please amend claims 9-12 as follows.
Please add new claims 22-25.

Listing of Claims:

1-8 (Cancelled)

9. (Currently Amended) ~~Process~~ The method according to claim 1 ~~22~~, wherein the energy is introduced via at least one of an infrared heating source, a laser, and an induction heat source.

10. (Currently Amended) ~~Process~~ The method according to claim 2 ~~23~~, wherein the energy is introduced via at least one of an infrared heating source, a laser, and an induction heat source.

11. (Currently Amended) ~~Process~~ The method according to claim 3 ~~24~~, wherein the energy is introduced via at least one of an infrared heating source, a laser, and an induction heat source.

12. (Currently Amended) ~~Process~~ The method according to claim 4 ~~25~~, wherein the energy is introduced via at least one of an infrared heating source, a laser, and an induction heat source.

13-21 (Cancelled)

22. (New) A method of producing a surface layer on a carrier element permeated with intermetallic phases, comprising the steps:

applying metal particles and ceramic particles to a surface of the carrier element by one of a plasma spray method, an electric arc wire spraying method and a kinetic cold gas compacting method,

introducing energy during the applying step whereby a reaction takes place between the metal particles and the ceramic particles to form intermetallic phases resulting in the production of the surface layer.

23. (New) The method according to claim 22, wherein the metal particles of the layer are aluminum or an aluminum alloy.

24. (New) The method according to claim 22, wherein the ceramic particles of the layer are an oxidic ceramic.

25. (New) The method according to claim 23, wherein the ceramic particles of the layer are an oxidic ceramic.